

The Pond Walk

3 miles, about 1 hour and 45 minutes

This is the most hiked trail at Borderland. Great hike for families with older children and for families with strollers. Bring water. The entire trail is wide, as it was once a carriage road.

- Start at the Visitor Center. Head towards the Mansion. Before the mansion, turn left and go down the hill. Stay on path.
- Once you arrive at an old white farm house (circa 1885), turn left at fork.
- Once you are in the large fields, path will fork again, stay to your left.
- You will be walking in between two ponds (Lower Leach Pond will be on your left hand side and Upper Leach Pond will be on your right hand side.)
- You will come to a wooden bird blind. Great spot to take a little break and look for some wildlife.
- Continue over a cedar bridge. After the bridge, the path will fork again, take a left.
- You will pass the old stone lodge. Keep the lodge on your left hand side, and continue on the main trail. At the top of this hill, you will find the Visitor Center. You made it!



About Borderland State Park

Borderland State Park is the former estate of Oakes and Blanche Ames. The Commonwealth purchased the 1250-acre Borderland property from the Ames family and opened it as a state park in 1971. It has since grown to encompass more than 1780-acres. Borderland hosts a number of activities, including hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and fishing.

Incorporated in 1972, Friends of Borderland, a nonprofit group, contributes to the restoration and preservation of the Ames Mansion and property. The group also hosts and sponsors events throughout the year. To support the Friends by becoming a member, pick up a membership form in the Visitor Center or visit their website at: www.friendsofborderland.org

Borderland is owned and operated by the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation. For a listing of parks and events, visit the DCR website at: www.mass.gov/dcr

At Borderland, there is a \$5 (MA residents) / \$6 (out of state) per car parking fee payable at the grey machines in the Visitor Center parking lot. Annual and senior parking passes are available in the office.

All pets must be leashed while in the park.



@MassDCR

@friendsofborderland

Borderland State Park

Self-Guided Family Hikes



Borderland State Park
259 Massapoag Ave.
North Easton, MA 02356
Tel. (508) 238-6566
Borderland.park@state.ma.us





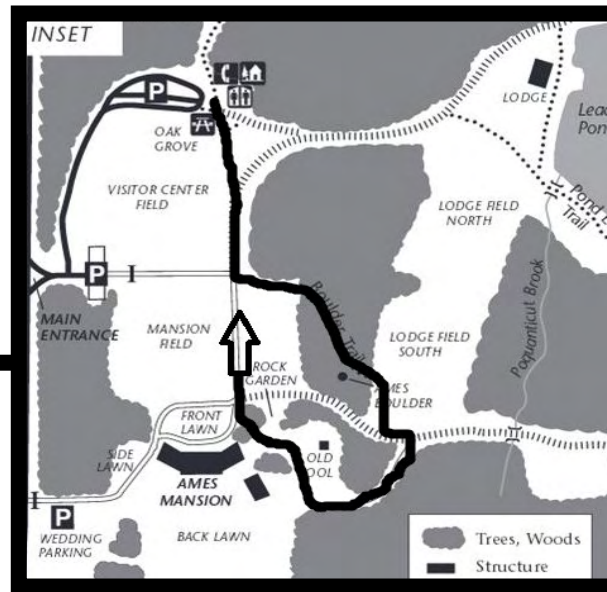
The Million Pound Boulder Hike

1/2 mile, about 30 minutes

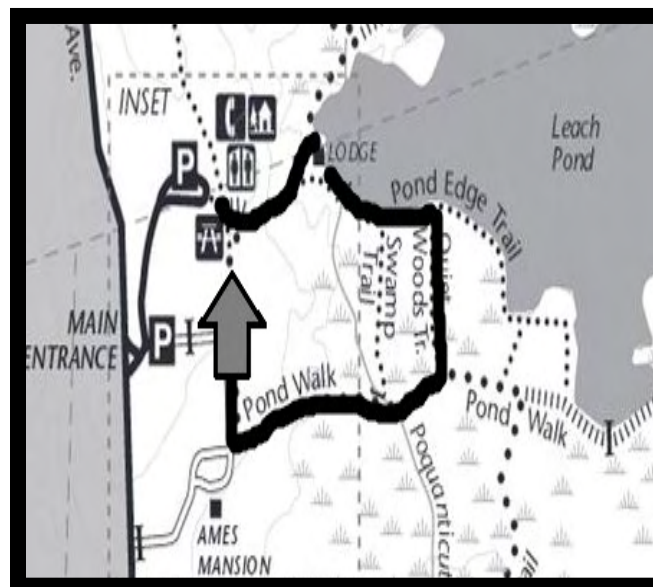
The Ames Boulder is a granite erratic, deposited here about 11,000 years ago as a huge glacier melted, receded and dropped it here. It weighs about 1,000,000 lbs.

NOTE: This trail is not suitable for baby strollers.

- Starting at the Visitor Center, walk south towards the Mansion.
- After you pass the picnic area, look left across the grassy field to find the Boulder Trail.
- Follow the Boulder Trail into the woods. Be careful to stay on the trail – there is lots of poison-ivy on both sides!
- Keeping right on the trail, walk to the Ames Boulder. After you see the boulder continue on the trail until you make it to a grassy field. Be careful, this is a disc golf field, watch out for people playing disc golf.
- Once in the field, take a right. Head towards the main trail (Pond Walk Trail) and take a left onto this trail for approximately 500 feet.
- You will see a path on your right hand side that parallels a stone wall. Turn right onto this path and continue until you see the Ames Mansion. Once you see the Ames Mansion, turn right and check out their old swimming pool. Walk up the steps near the swimming pool. This will lead you to the front of the mansion. Once you are in front of the mansion, follow the main path back to the Visitor Center.



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Massachusetts



The Pond Edge Hike

1 mile, about 45 minutes

Along this hike you will see the old stone lodge. This is a good place to do some ponding. You can borrow a ponding kit from the park interpreter (please return).

NOTE: This trail is not suitable for baby strollers.

- Start at the Visitor Center. Walk downhill on the Pond Walk behind the Visitor Center for about 1/4 mile.
- Keep left at the fork in the path, continue until you see the old stone lodge.
- If you are ponding, we recommend you pond in front of the lodge. Once you are done back track to the visitor center.
- If you are not ponding, continue to follow these directions.
- Take a right at the lodge and continue until you see a granite bench.
- At the granite bench, you will see a wooden bridge. Cross over this bridge and follow the path to your left.
- Continue along the pond edge trail for about 1/4 mile until you see a trail sign that says "Quiet Woods Trail".
- Turn right onto Quiet Woods Trail and follow the trail to the end.
- At the end of the trail, turn right onto the Pond Walk Trail. Follow this trail, it will bring you to the mansion. At the mansion, continue right, this will lead you back to the Visitor Center.

